



# Spotlight on CTE

**Highlighting Student Leadership Activities and  
Achievements in Career and Technical Education**

**June 2005**

## **Summer is Here and Nationals are Coming!**

Greetings from “CTE Central” in Lansing! Just as the celebrations and excitement of the State conferences have died down, everyone - directors, officers, advisors, students, even judges – can take a deep breath. For a New York minute. Because the Nationals are moving in fast!

While HOSA heads for Nashville, and SkillsUSA heads for Kansas City (Missouri, that is), teachers and administrators will have many opportunities for professional development as well. We all know how untrue, but widely believed, is the statement “You’re so lucky! You get the summers off!” It’s more like, off to the races! But everyone manages to have fun along the way.

We look forward to hearing *all about it* when you come back in August (August 1 would be heavenly), for our September kick-off edition of the newsletter. In fact, before you pack your bags, drop us a line about upcoming events while there’s still time to plan! Few things are more frustrating than a missed opportunity – especially for students, and everybody loves congratulations! Let us help *you* help *them* celebrate their accomplishments!

See page 3 for our quarterly publishing schedule. Please contact editor Donna Beltz at [beltzd@michigan.gov](mailto:beltzd@michigan.gov) or (517) 373-8204 with any newsletter submissions, suggestions or questions. Thank you. **Have a great summer!**

## **Inside This Issue . . .**

- 1 New FFA State Director
- 2 AYES Director Corner
- 2 Student Spotlight
- 3 Students Making a Difference
- 3 Pankow Apprenticeship Program

## **INTRODUCING....Our New State FFA Director!**

*Welcome, Dave!*

Much to our delight, Dave Wyrick, veteran Agriscience teacher and (retiring) Principal of Byron High School,



has accepted an offer he couldn’t refuse. He is now the new Michigan FFA Association Career and Technical Student Organization Director.

“Awesome, fantastic!”, only begins to describe how State Agriscience and Natural Resources Consultant, Randy Showerman, feels about his former teaching colleague’s abilities. “Dave is a real statesman.” He continues, “He looks at issues from a variety of different levels” before making a decision. He “has great respect from his peers, bringing crucial administrative perspective and expertise to FFA, as well as great credibility” to his new position.

Effective mid-June, Dave will assume his new responsibilities, retiring after 22 years as an Agriscience teacher and 7 years as Principal and CTE Director at Byron High School, in Byron, Michigan. It was there he did his student teaching, and landed his first teaching job, after graduating from Michigan State University. Now his new office will be on that same campus, in the Natural Resources building.

His “roots” are planted deeply in Byron, but he grew up on a dairy farm, in the family for over 100 years, in the Ovid-Elsie area. Since then the farm has added apples and other crops, which gave “fruit” to one of his favorite hobbies: orchards. One hundred and fifty apple trees now grace his home in Byron, on an acre of land.

continued on page 2

Just when he thought he might retire to spend time with his family, read a good book, and fish, FFA came along. And what he really looks forward to the most, he says, is “the kids - working with the kids.” He says he has met 10 of the 12 state student officers, and “they are terrific!”

He says for many years he has thought about applying for the director job, when it became available, but the timing just wasn’t right. His enthusiasm certainly has rubbed off on his students. One of his former students is the current FFA advisor at Byron High School, which won the 2004 National Chapter Award. Three of his former students are now Agriscience teachers.

On the personal side, Dave and his wife Irene have been married for 29 years, and have three sons. Their eldest son is a journeyman electrician; their middle son is a Horticulture student (of course) at MSU (of course), and their youngest just graduated from high school, and is enrolled in a Caterpillar Technology program. The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree, does it?

Congratulations, Dave, and welcome to the CTSO family!

## **AYES News – U.S. Department of Labor \$2.2M Grant Announced**

The U.S. Department of Labor has awarded Automotive Youth Educational Systems \$2.2M to expand the AYES initiative nationwide and to on-line learners desiring to study automotive service technology.

The DOL grant will make it possible for the AYES initiative to be delivered to high school students across the nation not served by an area high school/vocational school offering the AYES automotive technology curriculum. This far-reaching initiative will deliver a benchmark automotive curriculum and the mentored internship of the AYES model to students in participating dealerships and high schools.

The DOL grant will also make it possible for new on-line learners of all ages to study automotive service technology through a new AYES model. Expected pilot dates of the new initiatives will be the fall of 2005.

For more information, please visit: [www.ayes.org](http://www.ayes.org).

## **Student Spotlight**

Tom Burnette is one of the reasons the *Creuse Connection*, the student-operated restaurant at the Pankow Vocational-Technical Center in Clinton Township, is making news these days. Pictured holding the award-winning apple pie he and team member Brandon Hanna baked for an October competition, proud teacher Dave McNamara (baseball cap, big grin in the picture) says he is an “outstanding” class leader.



Winner of this year’s Student of the Year in Culinary Arts Award, and gold medal winner in the Macomb Culinary Chefs League Entrée Prep contest, he’s been setting things on fire recently – cherries, that is. In May he took charge of “flaming” 60 orders of Cherries Jubilee on Gourmet night at the *Creuse*!

His huge grin and warm greeting took on a serious tone as he said in a recent interview, “This is a program that really prepares you for a career in the culinary industry. It’s not a program for someone interested in light food prep, or entertaining at home. It’s in-depth and challenging.”

According to Mr. McNamara, Tom leads by example, intelligence and enthusiasm. Professionalism is evident in everything he does, whether it is short-order cooking, cashiering, waiting on tables, or creating gourmet dishes. He also researched and personally tested many recipes, while working with another student on design and notation for the 2005 class cookbook, now in print.

A big part of this state-approved program’s success is the leadership, creativity and devotion for his students shown by Dave McNamara. One of their huge successes, in which Tom was a key team member, was “*Forrest Gump Week*”, in partnership with the *Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. Restaurant and Market* in California. Mr. McNamara wrote the California restaurant, which delightedly sent Forrest Gump t-shirts for the students, “Run, Forrest, Run” license plates, miniature stuffed shrimp key chains and – of course, boxes of chocolates. Students transformed the restaurant with Forest Gump posters and memorabilia, running the movie continuously as they served *Forrest’s Coconut Shrimp*, *Lt. Dan’s Shrimp Kabobs*, *Elvis’ Alabama Shrimp Creole* and *Mama’s Shrimp Gumbo*. Every entrée was served with peas and carrots, and topped off with Forrest’s favorite chocolate torte. Is it any wonder such an atmosphere produces such winning students?

## Students Making A Difference

CTSO students are known for making a difference in the lives of people every day, with their local and regional community service projects.

Michigan DECA has partnered annually with the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) to raise funds for a cure to this disabling disease. Through various pledge-drive activities, DECA chapters from schools all over the state together raised a whopping \$104,864 this year! The Top three fundraising chapters not only won admiration and gratitude for their efforts, they won pizza parties! They were Portage Northern High School, Saline High School, and Caledonia High School DECA chapters.

Michigan HOSA 2004-05 Service Learning Project. Michigan HOSA students were moved by a 2001 survey conducted by Hunger in America, which showed a disturbing level of hunger among children and adults right here in Michigan, which continues to increase. As a result, they are partnering with the Michigan Health & Hospital Association, Michigan Food Council, and the Michigan Harvest Gathering for a second year. Their goal is to surpass their achievement last year of collecting 304,000 pounds of food and \$41,000! They are well on their way to making sure thousands of people this year, approximately 44% of them children, don't go to bed hungry at night.

Congratulations Michigan DECA and HOSA students! Keep up the great work!

### 2005 Calendar of Upcoming CTSO Events

BPA:	<a href="http://www.michiganbpa.org">www.michiganbpa.org</a>
October 4	Fall Leadership Conference Lansing, MI
DECA:	<a href="http://www.mideca.org">www.mideca.org</a>
Nov. 30-Dec. 4	New York City Marketing Conf. New York, New York
FCCLA:	<a href="http://www.mifccla.org">www.mifccla.org</a>
July 3-7	National Leadership Meeting San Diego, CA
FFA:	<a href="http://www.michiganffa.com">www.michiganffa.com</a>
June 20-26	National Leadership Conference Washington, DC
October 26-29	National Leadership Convention Louisville, KY
HOSA:	<a href="http://www.michiganhosa.org">www.michiganhosa.org</a>
June 22-25	National Leadership Conference Nashville, TN
SkillsUSA:	<a href="http://www.miskillsusa.org">www.miskillsusa.org</a>
June 19-25	National Leadership & Skills Conf. Kansas City, MO

## Voc-Tech Center Pilots CNA Apprenticeship Program

Because of the foresight and quick actions of an Advisory Committee member and a teacher at the Pankow Vocational-Technical Center, Health Sciences students will now be able to participate in a groundbreaking School-to-Registered Apprenticeship (STRA) through the U.S. Department of Labor. While gaining valuable on-the-job experience, as employees they also will be eligible for tuition reimbursement when they go on to college!

The director of Patient Care Services at St. John North Shores Hospital in Harrison Township, Susan Mooney-Smith, was the first in the state to sign on with the STRA program for Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA). As a result of this partnership, one Pankow student signed up for the apprenticeship program right away and found it a very positive experience. Other students have expressed interest. The hospital has also hosted many Pankow students in job-shadowing experiences in healthcare-related careers. Those responsible for making this opportunity possible with their employer partner, as well as reaching out to other interested healthcare providers, are teacher Anne Da Via, and STRA director Roland Leoni, at Pankow Voc-Tech Center.

For further information on registered apprenticeships and STRA, click on: [www.aboutmasci.org](http://www.aboutmasci.org)

### State CTSO Director Corner

Newsletter Publishing Schedule:

Articles Due:	Publish Date:
August 1	September
November 1	December
February 1	March
May 1	June

Student organization directors **only**, please submit articles using the Newsletter Response Form. E-mail articles to Donna Beltz, Editor, at [beltzd@michigan.gov](mailto:beltzd@michigan.gov)

It is the policy of the Office of Career and Technical Preparation that no person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, gender, height, weight, marital status, or disability shall be subjected to discrimination in any program, service or activity for which it is responsible, or for which it receives financial assistance from the U. S. Department of Education. Contact: Office of Civil Rights Administration Coordinator, Office of Career and Technical Preparation, P.O. Box 30712, Lansing, MI 48909 (517) 373-3373

